

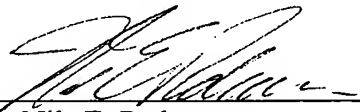
REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Furthermore, the above amendments have been made to have the amendments presented during the international phase under Article 34 entered at this point.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoichi KOBAYASHI et al.

By 
Nils E. Pedersen
Registration No. 33,145
Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krp
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
March 8, 2005